(b) whether the visit was in any way connected with Gulf War; if so, Government's policy in this regard;

(c) whether the Prime Minister had also attended the dinner hosted in his honour; if so, the name of the host and the total amount spent on it;

(d) whether it is a fact that he was invited by Government to hold negotiations on arms purchases or for arranging loan from Gulf countries;

(e) whether the visit has resulted into some deals; if so, the details thereof; and

(f) whether the VIPs whom Mr. Khashoggi had called on have reported their discussion to Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) Yes, Sir. Mr. Adnan Khashoggi, a Saudi Arabian businessman, was in India on a private visit from 27 January. During the course of his visit, he had called on, among others, the Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister. The discussions were of a general nature.

(b) During the meetings with Government dignitaries, there was no discussion on Government's polcies on the Gulf.

(c) The Prime Minister attended a dinner hosted by Dr. J. K. Jain, MP (Rajya sabha), on 29 January, 1991. Mr. Khashoggi was among the invitees at this dinner.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Since Mr. Khashoggi was on a private visit to India and did not hold any structural talks reports about his talks with various political leaders were not sought.

Communal Disturbances at Lucknow and Ghaziabad

869. SHRI JAGESH DESAI:
CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that communal disturbances took place in recent weeks at Lucknow and Ghaziabad;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the riots were preplanned;

(c) if so, the details of loss of lives and property in these disturbances;

(d) whether the factors that led to these disturbances have been investigated;

(e) what are the remedial measures being taken to aviod the recurrence of such disturbances in the country;

(f) whether Government have given any kind of relief to the riot victims; and

(g) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (d) as per the available information, the communal violence at Lucknow from 14th to 17th January, 1991 was consequent to a dispute between persons belonging to different communities in which eight persons were killed and 21 were injured. The communal violence at Ghaziabad was on account of group clashes between persons belonging to different communities over objection to provocative slogans in which 10 persons were killed and 41 injured. Property worth Rs. 21.71 lakhs is reported to have been lost in the communal violence at Ghaziabad. The riots at the above places were essentially the handiwork of anti-social and communal elements.

(e) As regards remedial measures being taken to avoid the recurrence of such dis-

turbances in the country, it may be stated that material support in terms of paramilitary forces and equipment is provided to the state governments as and when occasion arises or demands are made to enable them to effectively manage and control the riot situation on ground.

With a view to finding ways and means of combating the evils of communalism, the National Integration Council has been deliberating to find a solution to this vexed problem. The Council held two meetings during 1990—one in April in New Delhi and the other in September in Madras. At these meetings, resolutions were passed to the effect that the problems have to be solved in a peaceful manner, an amicable solution is to be found to the Ram Janma Bhoomi—Babri Masjid issue and that nothing should be done to aggravate the communal tension which already existed in the country.

With a view to promoting the twin concepts of communal harmony and national integration, a scheme is presently operative in the Ministry of Home Affairs under which financial assistance is granted to the voluntary organisations for holding functions and seminars for this purpose in various parts of the country.

Keeping in mind the need to foster communal harmony and prevent the occurrence of communal riots in the country, guidelines were issued to the States/U.Ts. in April, 1990 detailing measures in this behalf. A set of suggestions have also been sent to States/U.Ts. in August, 1990 about the curbing of inflammatory speeches, writings etc. which tend to vitiate the communal atmosphere in the country.

The Ministry of Home Affairs is also monitoring some aspects of the 15-point programme for minorities welfare. These include setting up of Special Courts, relief to riot victims, recruitment of minorities in police etc.

(f) and (g) The Central Government have issued guidelines to the various State Governments/U.Ts. which envisage that the amount of ex-gratia relief grants, for cases of death or permanent incapacitation be fixed at Rs. 50,000/-. A pension of Rs. 500/- per month may also be given to the widows of the victims of communal riots belonging to the low income group. The State Government have also been requested that a system of expeditious disbursement of the ex-gratia relief be devised.

The Government of Uttar Pradesh have recently announced an ex-gratia relief of Rs. 1.00 lakh to the next of the kin of the deceased victims of communal disturbances, an amount of Rs. 4,000/- each to the seriously injured persons and Rs. 1,000/- each to the other injured persons in the riots.

Closing of Hindustan Pilkington Glass Works Ltd.

870. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Hindustan Pilkington Glass Works Limited, Asansol in West Bengal was closed in 1980 rendering thousands of its workers jobless without giving them adequate compensation;

(b) whether it is also a fact that most of the workers are waiting for the reopening of the said glass factory so that they could get work therein;

(c) if so, by when the glass factory is likely to be repoened;

(d) whether Government propose to nationalise the said glass factory in the interest of its workers; and

(e) if the answer to part (d) above be in the negative what remedial action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) to (e) The unit of M/s. Hindustan Pilkington Glass Works Ltd., at Asansol, West Bengal which was closed in 1980 is being taken over by M/s. Ispat Pelletech Ltd. follo-